

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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FOLLOWING REPEAT BUDAPEST 6982 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USIA 20 SEP 76.

QUOTE: UNCLAS BUDAPEST 3251

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, HU

SUBJECT: CU/ARTS: AMERICAN GUEST CHOREOGRAPHER FOR HUNGARIAN STATE
BALLET COMPANY

1. HUNGARIAN STATE BALLET COMPANY DIRECTOR GYORGY LORINCZ
INVITED PAO TO CALL ON HIM ON SEP 17 TO REDISCUSS STILL
ACTIVE DESIRE OF BALLET COMPANY TO HAVE AN AMERICAN GUEST
CHOREOGRAPHER CHOREOGRAPH A BALLET FOR 1977-78 SEASON.

2. AFTER REPEATED UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO PERSUADE JEROME
ROBBINS TO AT LEAST VISIT BUDAPEST FOR A FEW DAYS TO DIS-
CUSS POSSIBILITIES, LORINCZ SAID MAYBE TIME HAD COME TO
GIVE UP ON HIM AND LOOK SOMEWHERE ELSE. AFTER THOROUGH
DISCUSSION OF QUESTION FOLLOWING PROPOSAL WAS DEVELOPED:

3. CU/ARTS REQUESTED TO MAKE ONE FINAL ATTEMPT TO GET
ROBBINS TO COMMIT HIMSELF TO A BUDAPEST VISIT THIS FALL.
IF SUCH A COMMITMENT CANNOT BE DEFINITELY NAILED DOWN
WITH ONE MORE PHONE CALL, ROBBINS SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT
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INVITATION TO VISIT BUDAPEST REMAINS OPEEN, BUT THAT IN

LIGHT OF ITS NEEDS FOR FALL 1977 SEASON, BALLET COMPANY WISHES TO MAKE OTHER CONTACTS IN EFFORT TO OBTAIN SERVICES OF A GUEST CHOREOGRAPHER.

4. LORINCZ ADVISED PAD THAT NEXT PREFERENCE OF BALLET COMPANY WAS BALANCHINE. HE SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE A MUCH EASIER ASSIGNMENT, SINCE IN CONTRAST TO ROBBINS, BALANCHINE IS DEFINITELY INTERESTED IN HAVING WORKS BY HIM PERFORMED IN AS MANY PLACES AS POSSIBLE. FURTHERMORE, LORINCZ SAID, BALANCHINE DOES NOT INSIST ON DOING CHOREOGRAPHY PERSONALLY, BUT IS USUALLY WILLING TO SEND ONE OF HIS BALLET MASTERS TO TEACH THE WORK TO A COMPANY. THIS SOLUTION WOULD BE PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE HERE.

5. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS, AND IF FINAL ATTEMPT WITH ROBBINS UNSUCCESSFUL, CU/ARTS REQUESTED TO CONTACT BALANCHINE, PRESENT PROPOSAL TO HIM, AND DETERMINE WHETHER ONE OF HIS BALLET MASTERS COULD INCLUDE A THREE-TO FOUR-DAY BUDAPEST VISIT AS PART OF THEIR NEXT TRIP TO EUROPE, FOR PURPOSE OF PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS.

6. ALTHOUGH EVENTUAL CONTRACT FOR GUEST CHOREOGRAPHY WOULD BE ON A PURELY COMMERCIAL BASIS, P&C HAS AGREED TO CO-SPONSOR PRELIMINARY VISIT, BY PAYING ROUND-TRIP AIR TRANSPORTATION FROM A EUROPEAN DEPARTURE POINT, WHILE BALLET COMPANY COVERS ALL LOCAL EXPENSES.

7. APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE WITH THIS PROJECT. PLEASE CABLE RESULTS.
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